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Department of Education

Division of Special Education

FAPE Incarcerated Children with Disabilities

Free Appropriate Public Education for Incarcerated Children with Disabilities

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Summary Report 2004-2005

- The Tennessee Department of Education, Division of Special Education, has revised a plan to assure that educational services are being provided to individuals who are incarcerated under the age of twenty-two years of age. Presently this task is being coordinated by Davis Hines, Director of Juvenile Services & Charter Schools and Mark Reep, Juvenile Service & Charter School Consultant, for the State of Tennessee.
- In the 2004-2005 School Year several county-operated detention centers and/or jails have been monitored; West Tennessee five (5) county facilities, Middle Tennessee twenty three (23) county facilities and East Tennessee thirteen (13) county facilities. A total of sixteen (16) incarcerated individuals have been identified and presently receiving services (6) of which have been identified through the inmate interviewing process.
- Those facilities that are to be monitored during the current school year are notified that they are to be monitored during summer of the previous year. In addition to the initial letter a policy is enclosed to inform them of the necessity of monitoring, which is to assure that all individuals with a disability are receiving an appropriate education. To better serve those individuals with a disability who are incarcerated, the SEA has developed and implemented a program plan and survey that will address key areas of concern and give the SEA data to initiate a proactive approach to handling juvenile justice issues.
- In addition to the monitoring process, training has been provided by the Department of Education, Division of Special Education, through various means of staff development (Tennessee Re-Entry Collaborative-TREC & Special Education Conference)

Monitoring Process Results 2004-2005

Monitoring Process Table

FAPE Incarcerated Children with Disabilities.

Tennessee Regions	Counties Scheduled 2004-2005	Counties Monitored 2004-2005
West Tennessee	5	100%
Middle Tennessee	23	100%
East Tennessee	13	100%

I. Housing Census Issues

(County Detention Centers & Juvenile Facilities)

There continues to be no clear method of determining the number of individuals incarcerated with a disability. However several systems are utilized throughout the state, ex: Jail Pak, JMS, and SUMS are only a few. Some smaller counties data reporting is obtained through manual collecting of information.

II. Educational Services

(County Detention Centers / Juvenile Facilities / LEA)

- A. The County Detention Centers and LEA are encouraged to develop appropriate policies, however very few policies or procedures are available to indicate the format utilized when an individual with disability is incarcerated in a county detention facility.
- B. The County Detention Center and LEA are presently working together to address a designated place conducive to instruction or educational services.

III. School Systems

(LEA & SEA)

A. LEA has been encouraged by SEA to provide adequate training or in-services to local county operated facilities to assist in assuring that individual with disabilities are identified and receive services in a timely manner.

B. During the monitoring process a tour of the county jail and/or detention center, and an interview conducted with inmates housed at the facility continues to be proven effective. This process of randomly selecting individuals who were found not to presently posses a high school diploma or GED and were twenty-two years old and under proved to be most successful in finding individuals incarcerated that were in need of educational services.

Tennessee Department of Education- Division of Special Education

2004-2005 FAPE-Incarcerated Children with Disabilities

County Detention Centers & Juvenile Facilities

Bedford Bedford County Det. Ctr.

Benton

Bledsoe Campbell Cannon Carroll Cheatham

Claiborne Claiborne County THR

Clay DeKalb

Giles Giles County THR

Grainger Hancock Hawkins Houston **Jackson Jefferson**

Lake Lawrence Marion Moore Morgan Obion Overton Pickett Robertson

Rutherford Rutherford County Det. Ctr. Scott

Scott County Det.Ctr.

Sequatchie

Sevier Sevier County Det. Ctr.

Smith

Stewart

Sumner Sumner County Det. Ctr.

Union Van Buren Warren Wayne

White

Williamson Williamson county Det. Ctr.